

THE **GOOD NEWS**

DIOCESE OF ALBANY
40 NORTH MAIN AVENUE
ALBANY, NY 12203

JULY 2025

**“We are a group
of women filled with
positive energy
dedicated to making life
better for those less
fortunate.”**

Ann D. Rose



TO SERVE RATHER THAN
BE SERVED WITH HUMILITY,
SIMPLICITY AND CHARITY.



President's Message

Sharon Giordano

Dear Ladies of Charity,

Our recent Installation Mass on May 20 welcomed six new members to the Albany Association of the Ladies of Charity. These women joined our other very dedicated members in making a commitment to follow in the footsteps of our founder, St. Vincent de Paul, to support the poorest people spiritually and materially.

I have had the opportunity to work in several of our ministries and meet some of you, our volunteers, as well as those we serve. We serve women, children, the homeless, those living in and stuck in a rut of poverty, the aged, those who are lonely, those in nursing homes. We act as advocates supporting ways in which the U.S. and state governments can help the poor.

I invite you to learn about the Ladies of Charity at the national level and attend this year's National Assembly themed "Choose Hope" in Bethesda, Maryland on September 11-13. Check the aic.ladiesofcharity.us website for details.

In house, I am happy to announce that Rose Sherin has agreed to chair a 501(c)(3) committee! The LCUSA lists one of the responsibilities as a member association is to "obtain a 501(c)(3) exemption from the Internal Revenue Service if the association doesn't have the exemption" (*LOC Reference Manual*, Section 1, p. 40)" and failure to file timely may affect donors' ability to claim tax deduction for contribution and may result in the organization being required to file income tax". (*LOC Reference Manual*, Section 1, pp. 55-57) We are exploring our eligibility, responsibilities and how to apply with an attorney who has agreed to work with us pro bono!

Please consider attending one of our monthly board meetings, held on the second Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. at DePaul House beginning on August 12. You will soon learn the needs of our community and discover how you can best help.

I hope that you enjoy the rest of the summer and that we'll meet again in the fall at our general membership dinner meeting.

Thank you for your dedication and service to our mission.

Sharon Giordano

Spirituality

Sister Joanne Donovan, D.C.

Recently one of our Ladies of Charity questioned in an email if our newer Ladies of Charity knew of Sr. Serena Branson, D.C. This encouraged me to write about Sr. Serena, a former Daughter of Charity, who had been the administrator of St. Catherine's Child Care Center, the executive director of the Diocese of Albany's Catholic Charities and the first Vincentian spiritual moderator of the Albany Ladies of Charity.

Sr. Serena was a native of Washington D.C. She entered the Daughters of Charity in Emmitsburg, Md. in 1931. In her early years as a Daughter of Charity, Sr. Serena was an educator serving in St. Vincent's Home in Troy, N.Y, Utica Catholic Academy and Lourdes School in Baltimore, Md. During these years, her compassion for the poor became a lifetime project. She was articulate about their needs and spoke from the heart, influencing benefactors and legislators. After attaining a master's degree in social work from the Catholic University of America, she became a pioneer and innovator in the care and education of children and families.

In 1969 Bishop Edwin Broderick came to the Albany Diocese from New York City. He knew of the Ladies of Charity in New York City and contacted five women from Pius X Parish here in Loudonville to meet with him and form an Albany chapter of the Ladies of Charity. Initially they were commissioned to financially support St. Catherine's Child Care Center.

Bishop Broderick knew of Sr. Serena and asked the Council of the Daughters of Charity that Sr. Serena be missioned to St. Catherine's Center for Children. Sr. Serena was a dynamo, and she reorganized St. Catherine Center for Children, changing its focus from residential care for young children to treatment for emotional disturbed, abused and neglected children from birth to 12 years of age.

In 1974, Sr. Serena was appointed executive director of Albany's Catholic Charities, becoming the first woman in the United States to hold such a title. Under her leadership, Catholic Charities expanded its presence from three to all fourteen counties in the diocese, linked with the public sector to improve the lot of the needy.

Throughout her time as administrator and executive director of Catholic Charities, Sr. Serena continued to be active with the Ladies of Charity. She was at home among the affluent and the poor, in the halls of state and national legislatures. Her aim was "...first of all, to do God's will and to try and use my talents and position to better the lot of poor..."

This is a mere sketch of Sr. Serena and her involvement with the Ladies of Charity, St. Catherine's Center for Children and Albany Catholic Charities. She was a beloved member of the Daughters of Charity and the Ladies of Charity as well as a mentor for many new Ladies of Charity.



Sr. Serena Branson

LCUSA National Update **Kathy Kavanaugh**

Programming for the LOC National Convention in Bethesda, Md has been completed! September 11-13 looks to be filled with stimulating topics and presenters. In addition to a bus trip to the Seton Shrine in Emmitsburg, Md. on Thursday, Sept. 11 providing interesting history of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and time for reflection, there are other topics we will learn from and hopefully expand the effectiveness of our association's work. Some of the workshops led by practicing experts are: "From Crisis to Hope: Empowering Solutions for Homelessness"; "Pastoral Accompaniment of Persons with Chronic Illness and Pain"; "Being Aware of Domestic Violence"; "Choosing Hope in Advocating for Legislation and Policy." There will also be a session called "Planning for the Future -- Collaboration among Association Leadership and Vincentian Spiritual Moderators." This session is for all association officers, spiritual moderators and those interested in future leadership or Vincentian spiritual moderator roles. A special treat is being able to meet Tayde de Calatay, AIC President. She is an attorney living in Belgium, although she was born in Mexico.

Please consider joining other women from across the United States and learning about the wonderful work we are all doing and how we might share our work with others as we grow in the Vincentian charism, AND HAVE A LOT OF FUN! Refer to our national website (LCUSA) to register and learn more of the activities offered. Registration deadline is August 19. Visit the LCUSA website to register and learn more about the excellent programming and experiences being offered. If you like, let me (Kathy) know (518-573-5082) if you are planning to attend and I will do my best to offer additional information or answer questions.

Membership Shelby Blendell

Dues Mailing Coming Soon!!

Summer is here and so is the time for our annual dues collection and Branson Fund appeal. The dues will remain \$35. This dues payment covers **both** local membership in the Albany Association of LOC (\$20) and Ladies of Charity USA (\$15).

You will be receiving the mailing shortly with a yellow form. Please return this form with dues and any donations you would like to make. The yellow membership form has a place to list volunteer hours and instructions on what activity is considered volunteer. We are required to report our volunteer totals to LCUSA.

Update

Our current membership total is 155. This includes our newest members installed in recent months. Please welcome these newest members: Heather Rooney, Joanne Chmura, Lynn Devane, Karen Barrett, Janet McCutchen and Jane Wasserbach.

Hospitality Kelly Murray

Many Sisters of the Daughters of Charity were able to join us at our Installation Mass at the DePaul House chapel on May 20. Father Pat Butler celebrated the Mass and Sheila Morris Barnes cantored accompanied by her friend and pianist, Meghan Barrow. The six new members of the Ladies of Charity were able to join us for a delicious dinner at Wolferts Roost Country Club.

Outgoing president Michele O'Hare was recognized at the dinner for her dedication and leadership and presented with a gift card from the Ladies of Charity to the Ocean House in Dennis Port, Mass. The Ladies then welcomed Sharon Giordano, our new president, to say a few words.

Please remember to check your email this summer for details about our September general membership meeting.



Above: At left: Michele and Father Pat; Middle: Sharon; Right: new Ladies Janet McCutchen, Karen Barrett, Lynn Devane, Heather Rooney, Jane Wasserbach and Joanne Chmura



Above: At left: Theresa McMahon, Ann Rose, Sheila Morris Barnes, Meghan Barrow; Middle: Dorè Schmidt, Julie Bonanni, Judy Reimenschneider; Right: Rose Marie Brandone, Kathy Ryan, Sue Hollander

Public Policy/Legislation

Marie Copeland, Chair

Update, April 8, 2025

For your information:

New Decarbonization Project at UAlbany - This \$30 million decarbonization project will allow the campus to turn off its gas-powered boilers during the hottest months of the summer and will create jobs for Capital Region families.

Federal Legislation Update:

Neighbors not Enemies Act (HR 630/S 193) - This bill would repeal the Alien Enemies Act of 1798. March 17 was the 45th anniversary of the Refugee Act which established the right of migrants to seek asylum in the United States. Bills are in both houses' Judiciary Committees.

Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (HR 1144) - This legislation will help survivors of human trafficking recover and will address the root causes of human trafficking.

The SAFE Act (Safeguard American Voter Eligibility) (HR.22) - This bill would require all Americans to provide a birth certificate, passport or one of a few other citizenship documents every time they register or re-register to vote.

No Bailout for Sanctuary Cities Act (HR.32) - Prohibits state and local governments deemed to be "sanctuary jurisdictions" from receiving certain federal funding, which could include programs such as the National School Lunch Program, Emergency Medicaid and federal disaster relief.

On April 11, a rule went into effect setting up a new process for **non-citizen registration throughout the United States**. Call the Capital Switchboard 202-224-3121 and ask to speak with your federal representatives.

From AARP:

Credit for Caring Act - This bi-partisan legislation would provide eligible working family caregivers with a tax credit up to \$5,000 to help their loved ones stay at home.

The Daughters of Charity have invited the Ladies of Charity to participate in the **Offering of Letters from Bread for the World**. Please go to bread.org to find sample letters to your federal representatives. As an alternative to preparing letters, call Sen. Schumer (202-224-6542), Local # 518-431-4070; Sen. Kirstin Gillibrand (202-224-4451), Local # 518-431-0120; Rep. Paul Tonko (202-225-5076), Local # 518-465-0700. (Identify yourself as a Lady of Charity).

Update, May 13, 2025

Here are some **highlights of the New York State budget** that passed on May 8:

- N.Y. will raise Medicaid spending by more than \$4 billion, to include higher reimbursement rates for hospitals and other health care providers.

- N.Y. will set aside \$50 million to create its own housing voucher program that will help pay rent for an estimated 2,500 people who are either homeless or at risk of eviction (Section 8).
- N.Y. State's Child Tax Credit will increase to \$1,000 for each child 3 years of age or younger; \$500 for children older than 3 but younger than 17. This is for couples earning less than \$323,200 and single filers earning less than \$215,400. Also, these filers will see their state income tax rates decrease by one-tenth of 1% (.001).
- More than 8 million N.Y.S residents will receive a one-time, direct payment to help with the high cost of living. To qualify, residents must have filed a state income tax return for 2023. Here are the amounts: \$400 for families or joint tax filers who make less than \$150,000; \$300 for families making between \$150,000.01 and \$300,000; \$200 for individuals making less than \$75,000; and \$150 for individuals making between \$75,000.01 and \$150,000. (The payments or refunds are expected to go out in the fall of 2025 as checks.)

Head Start and Early Head Start are the only federally supported early care and education programs specifically dedicated to serving low-income households. The decision by the Trump administration to close Head Start's only regional office in New York will affect children and families across the state.

From AARP:

The **Food and Drug Administration (FDA)** approved **Jornavx**, a first-in-its-class medication that works by blocking pain signals in the peripheral nerves, before they reach the brain. Taken as a pill, it is approved to relieve short-term pain that typically stems from tissue injury as a result of trauma or surgery. This is a non-opioid pain reliever and has a list price of \$15.50 per 50-milligram pill.

Credit for Caregiving Act - This bi-partisan act is before Congress and would give family caregivers a federal tax credit of up to \$5,000 a year to help defray the costs of caring for a spouse or other loved one.

Virtual (Telehealth) Medicare visits have been extended until September 30, 2025.

Federal Updates:

Social Security Expansion Act of 2025 - Would expand benefits by \$2,400 per year and ensure the program is fully funded for the next 75 years.

A bill has been introduced in Congress to raise the federal minimum wage to \$17 per hour for all workers and gradually eliminate sub-minimum wages for tipped workers, workers with disabilities and youth workers.

Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act of 2025 - Introduced in Congress and would establish a federal commission to investigate, document and acknowledge the historical harms of the Indian boarding school policies. A thorough investigation of government records and hearing from survivors and families found that at least 973 native children died at 417 schools across 37 states or territories.

From USCCB/MRS/JFI:

On April 7, USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) announced that it would not renew the cooperative agreements with the federal government related to children's services and refugee support because of the government's cancellation of grants and termination of the cooperative agreements related to resettling refugees.

Religious Workforce Protection Act - The USCCB is urging Congress to pass this bipartisan legislation enabling foreign-born religious workers to continue their U.S. ministries amid visa backlogs.

Pope Francis chose the theme for World Refugee Day 2025, "Missionaries of Hope." This event will be observed on October 4-5 during the Jubilee of Migrants and the Missionary World.

Update, June 10, 2025

From the NYS Catholic Conference:

Medical Aid in Dying Bill #138 a/k/a Physician Assisted Suicide passed in the Senate on Monday, June 9, and is now awaiting the governor's signature to become law. It had previously passed in the Assembly.

N.Y. Legislation to Watch:

Kyra's Law (A.6194/S.5598) - This law would require courts to evaluate abuse allegations and safety risks before granting custody or visitation. It would help judges resolve risk issues quickly and make informed decisions, avoiding long-term trauma and tragedy.

Consumer Direct Personal Assistance Program (CDPAP) - A new bill introduced to expand the companies that oversee a \$9 billion Medicaid program that enables disabled or elderly New Yorkers to choose their home caregiver. The bill would create a new class of smaller companies, known as fiscal intermediaries, to give CDPAP users a choice about what organization they want to work with. This separate class of fiscal intermediaries would be required to have a contract with the state Health Department and operate at the health commissioner's discretion, or must work with independent living centers that have operated as a program fiscal intermediary since January 1, 2024.

Federal Legislation Introduced:

Supporting Healthy Moms and Babies Act - Would categorize all prenatal and postpartum expenses as essential health benefits, which means insurance companies will be required to fully cover the cost of all childbirth related services, including ultrasounds, fetal monitoring, labor and delivery, and physical and mental health support after giving birth.

Improving Seniors' Timely Access to Care Act - Zero-cost legislation to improve access to care for seniors enrolled in Medicare Advantage (MA) plans. The bill focuses on streamlining the often cumbersome and time-consuming prior authorization process. This legislation would help physicians better serve and improve care for the 32.8 million Americans including the over 2 million New Yorkers enrolled in an MA plan.

Second Chance Reauthorization Act of 2025 - This version expands second chance programs to include treating substance use disorders through various mechanisms, including peer recovery programs; reentry housing; grants for nonprofits that provide transitional and community-based mentoring services; and an extension of second chance programs through 2030.

Update on the Educational Choice for Children Act (ECCA) - The U.S. House of Representatives has approved the act, bringing educational opportunities for families in all 50 states one step closer. The measure is now being considered by the U.S. Senate.

From Catholic Charities USA/USCCB/MRS/JFI:

Budget Reconciliation Bill Update: Passed both Houses and was signed into law by President Trump on July 4th.

New Legislation:

The TAKE IT DOWN Act - Signed into law on May 19, 2025, addresses the issue of non-consensual intimate imagery (NCII) and deepfakes. It criminalizes the online publication of such images, including digitally created ones, and mandates that online platforms promptly remove NCII upon receiving notice from a victim. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is responsible for enforcing the law. First Lady Melania Trump was instrumental in getting this legislation passed.

New Proclamation:

Travel Ban Policy - This prevents people from a dozen countries from entering the United States including those from Afghanistan, Burma, Chad, Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Haiti, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen. Also, there will be heightened restrictions on visitors from Burundi, Cuba, Laos, Sierra Leone, Togo, Turkmenistan and Venezuela.

Thank you for your advocacy.

Mary's Corner Receives a Gift

Sharon Giordano

Alba Giordano's granddaughters hosted a 95th birthday celebration for her at Wolferts Roost Country Club in April. While some of her past accomplishments with the Ladies of Charity were highlighted on a timeline (like holding nearly every position on our board, leading us as one of our past presidents and acting as a program chair at the National Assembly of the Ladies of Charity held in Albany in 2002), it is her most recent volunteer work with Mary's Corner that Alba now holds dear to her heart! She asked that, in lieu of gifts, guests might want to donate to Mary's Corner. Many donated in Alba's name totaling over \$5,000! We are lucky to be the recipient of her thoughtfulness. Thank you, Alba, for including us in your big day!



Alba and guests

Tax-Exempt Status for Albany Association of Ladies of Charity

Rose Sherin, Chairperson

Work is continuing to establish the Albany Ladies of Charity as a self-reliant not-for-profit corporation and become a 501(c)(3) tax exempt entity. You may recall receiving a letter of explanation in May and an invitation to attend a meeting in June to explore the 501(c)(3) process. Prior to these actions a meeting was held with Sr. Betsy Van Deusen, C.S.J., executive director of Catholic Charities, and the national organization, Ladies of Charity USA, was contacted.

Sr. Betsy was informed of our rationale for seeking this status. Given the significant reduction in the reliability of donated goods for the various ministries we support, it is critical we become self-reliant in pursuing grants and donations. A 501(c)(3) designation will allow us to accomplish this. We will still be under the auspices of Catholic Charities and will continue to work under its patronage and guidance.

Ladies of Charity USA supports the 501(c)(3) designation. They recommend this status be pursued in accordance with the established federal and state guidelines.

The first step in obtaining the designation is formulation of a not-for-profit corporation. To accomplish this task we are working with a local firm that is reviewing our request and will handle our incorporation on a pro bono basis. The committee is looking forward to working with them over the next several months.

Concerns have been voiced that a 501(c)(3) will require additional paid staff. We are cognizant that 501(c)(3) status may require an adjustment in our financial record keeping and we may also occasionally consult with a tax professional. The committee is exploring these factors and is committed to obtaining either the volunteer services of a tax professional or reduced rates for services.

Historically, 501(c)(3) designation has been discussed but not acted upon because it was deemed unnecessary. However, the work of the Albany Association of the Ladies of Charity has changed. Our ministries have expanded, the needs of the poor continue to increase and donations are no longer reliable. Steps must be taken now to make the Albany Ladies of Charity self-reliant. The 501(c)(3) committee is confident that this is the way to proceed.

If you have questions or concerns please email or call Mary Clinton at mclinton5@nycap.rr.com, 518-470-6120 or Rose Sherin, chairperson, at rlsherin1952@gmail.com, 518-439-8284.

Gifts of Time, Talent & Treasure

MARY'S CORNER

Mary Clinton

I discover more each day how Mary's Corner resonates in people from near and far. At Mary's Corner we have many wonderful dedicated volunteers from site leaders to shoppers: the women who come to the Distribution Center each week ready to do whatever needs to be done to prepare items for delivery to the sites, the St. Pius X men's group who makes weekly deliveries to Albany and the Notre Dame alumni group who comes monthly to deliver to Cohoes. It truly takes a village to operate Mary's Corner. I am forever grateful for the dedicated village we have.

On June 28 Sr. Joanne Donovan, Rose Sherin, Alicia Smith and I were honored to meet Jeanne McAlister, director of grants, and Kaitlyn Mathias, grant coordinator, from the Mission and Ministry Impact(MMI) program of the Daughters of Charity. The MMI grant is our current funding source for Mary's Corner. The Mary's Corner grant updates and stories we provided to MMI sparked such interest with Jeanne and Kaitlyn that they decided they needed to come for a visit. A business trip from Indiana to New York City allowed them to extend their trip two days to come up to the Albany area for a visit. Unfortunately their visit couldn't coincide with when Mary's Corner was open, but Rose and Alicia made sure they got the full effect of our operation at our Albany site and the Distribution Center.

Those few hours each week you take from your daily schedule is making a difference in this crazy world we are all trying to navigate. As of June of this year the number of clients we have served is consistent with 2024 numbers. There has been an increase in the number of children we have served compared to last year and the number of new clients is down slightly. We have notice some weeks we have no new clients. The lack of new clients in Albany is not something we have experienced in the recent past.

Please keep the clients we serve, who are primarily immigrants, in your prayers.

Thank you again for your continued support of Mary's Corner.

A Visit to Mary's Corner in Cohoes

On a recent Tuesday morning, in a compact, efficiently-arranged space in the Parish Center of Holy Trinity Church, Mary Ann Conway, Millie Smith and Phyllis DePaulo continued their weekly ministry to moms and dads and their children. We felt love and joy as guests were welcomed, babies were admired and kids played while parents shopped for things they needed for their little ones.

With Mary's Corner located a few feet down the hall from the food pantry, the center can be a one-stop destination for Cohoes families!



Mary Ann



Millie



Phyllis



A young guest

SATURDAYS WITH THE SISTERS

Mary Clinton and Lois Keefrider

There was more fun in June!

June 21 – ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS WALK

The Daughters hosted a special Alzheimer's awareness walk on Saturday, June 21, at the St. Louise House Campus. Several Ladies joined the Daughters to get some exercise, enjoy each other's company and contribute to an important cause. Ladies were invited to bake their special desserts to be sold at the event.

More than \$1300 was raised to help combat this devastating disease.



▲ *Sr. Margaret Mary with Benji*

Sr. Martha and Sr. Joan ►



*Sr. Ann Marie (in wheel chair),
Sr. Loretta, Sr. Joanne, Sr. Fredricka* ►

June 28 - BARBECUE WITH THE SISTERS

Our summer barbecue never disappoints. The weather was fine, the food was terrific and the company was unsurpassed!



There will be many fun afternoons ahead. Please consult our website, albanyloc.org, to find out what's planned for Saturdays this summer and fall.

THE GIVING ROOM: Chris Sheridan

Once again this year, the Ladies brought personal care items to the Installation dinner. We (and our guests) are grateful for this amazing generosity. Bless you all!

COATS FOR THE COMMUNITY: Kathy Ryan

Soon the hot, humid days of summer will be waning and we will be preparing for the cooler/cold days of fall and winter. It will be time to volunteer for the COATS for the COMMUNITY ministry. COATS serves the communities of Cohoes, Green Island, Watervliet and Waterford. We collect new or gently used winter coats, heavy jackets, sweatshirts, sweaters and fleece. Also hats, scarfs, gloves and mittens. We collect and distribute sizes from infants to adults.

We start by moving the display racks to the Cohoes Senior Center at 10 Cayuga Place on Sunday, October 19. At this time we set up the racks in preparation for the sorting and displaying that will begin on Monday, October 20 through Thursday, October 23. The hours are 9 a.m. to 12 noon each day.

Our shoppers come on Friday, October 24 from 1 to 6 p.m. Each shopper has a volunteer to assist them in their selections. Shopping also takes place on Saturday, October 25 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Then at noon time agencies and school representatives come to select coats and accessories for their clients/students. After this is completed, we break down and store the racks for next year's COATS.

Thank you to the many volunteers who have previously helped with the shoppers and had the "feel great feeling" of serving our shoppers in need. There is always room for more volunteers to help us in this very satisfying and important ministry.

If you want to participate in any aspect of COATS or have any questions, please contact Kathy Ryan at 518-469-0188 or Shelby Blendell at 571-228-2783.



CHARITY ABOUNDS

Many of our Ladies serve in ministries other than those our Association sponsors or directly supports. We would like to highlight their work from time to time as space allows. If you have a ministry you'd like to see featured, please send a description to csherida@nycap.rr.com.

Catholic Charities VITA Program: Maureen Toohey

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program is a national, IRS-administered volunteer program in which volunteers prepare federal and state tax returns for low-income clients for free. Volunteers train and certify each year to prepare tax returns as part of the program. The program is administered at the Capital Region level via United Way Greater Capital Region. The Capital Region has around 20 VITA sites, the largest of which is the site at Catholic Charities Albany at 40 North Main Ave.

The Catholic Charities VITA site started in 1999; they prepared 85 returns that year. Over the next two decades, the site recruited more volunteers, opened up branches at Catholic Central School in Latham and Hudson Valley Community College in Troy, and are now preparing over 2,000 returns each tax season. Most of the site's tax clients have been coming to Catholic Charities for their tax preparation for years, and know many of our volunteers. There are over 80 volunteers between the three locations, from high school students to AARP volunteers, and their dedication and passion for the program is inspiring.

The three locations are run by Andrew Kochian, Mary Olsen and Maureen Toohey, all of whom are affiliated with Catholic Charities. This team has grown the Catholic Charities VITA site and its branches to be the largest provider of free tax preparation in the Capital Region: of the over 6,000 tax returns that are prepared by the 20 VITA sites in the Capital Region, over 2000, or 33%, of them are prepared by the Catholic Charities site and its branches.

Here are the results from the 2025 tax season:

- Catholic Charities Albany (including HVCC)
1,833 tax returns prepared
 - \$549,900 in tax preparation fees saved (assuming \$300 average fee)
 - \$1,659,597 in refunds returned to clients
- Catholic Central School
348 tax returns prepared
 - \$104,400 in tax preparation fees saved (assuming \$300 average fee)
 - \$293,789 in refunds returned to clients



Volunteers Andrew, Mary and Phin, a high school freshman who has been volunteering with us since grade school

Save The Dates

Board Meetings at DePaul House:

August 12- 5 p.m.

September 9 -5 p.m.

October 14 - 5 p.m.

November 11 - 5 p.m.

Saturdays with the Sisters at St. Louise House:

Consult our website, albanyloc.org, for upcoming activities

Coats for the Community at the Cohoes Senior Center:

October 20 through 23 - 9 a.m. to 12 noon - setup

October 24 - 1 to 6 p.m - guests select coats

October 25 - 9 a.m to 12 noon - guests select coats

**Please consult our website, albanyloc.org,
for the very latest news and schedule updates.**

Act of Consecration

Lord Jesus, we recall your words: "I was sick and you visited me, hungry and you gave me food, thirsty and you gave me to drink; I was naked and you clothed me, poor and you comforted me."

As a response to your invitation, we come today to consecrate ourselves to you in the service of those who are victims of poverty in its many forms.

In the spirit of Saint Vincent de Paul, we desire to be for the poor a reflection of your loving compassion and of your tender mercy. Mindful of those who suffer many injustices, we will reach out to them in loving sacrifice.

Mary, our mother, we ask you to beg your divine Son to make us worthy to carry the light of His teachings and the comfort of His love to those who are lonely, who are sick, or who in any way suffer the sting of poverty.

We pray to you, Saint Vincent de Paul, our model and our founder, obtain for us the virtues of humility, simplicity and charity, and your ardent zeal for souls. May we continue to share in your work here on earth and come to enjoy your glory in heaven.

Amen.

THE ALBANY ASSOCIATION OF



2025-2026 Executive Board

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